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plantis permaturis fortasse altiora. Bracteae involucri longae, apicibus viridibus conspicuis.

The root with a stout ligneous crown, 4 cm. long, from which rises a number of slender, but stiff, branches, 1–1.5 dm. long, either bearing 1–10 heads or sterile, with glutinous buds in the leaf-axils of the lower half, all the branches of the season including involucres and leaves being remarkably glutinous. Leaves linear-filiform, 2.5—4 cm. long, 1 mm. broad or less, 1-nerved. Heads solitary at the ends of fastigiate or inflexed branchlets forming a flat–topped, few-headed inflorescence which is 1—2.5 cm. high and confined to the uppermost ends of the branches. The disposition with some other species of forming glomerules of 3-5 sessile or subsessile heads does not occur in this species. Involucres turbinate, 5 a 6 mm. high or probably higher in well matured plants (the type plant being quite young, with buds comparatively large). Involucral bracts long, with conspicuous green tips. Disk-and ray flowers 3-6 of each kind.

Collected by the writer on July 16, 1903, east of Ione, Morrow County, Oregon, on arid plains among *Artemisia tridentata* and *Chrysothamnus pumilus*.

Leeds, North Dakota.

OUR SONG BIRDS.—V.

BROTHER ALPHONSUS, C. S. C.

TOWHEE.

Pipilo erythrophthalmus.

One of the most pleasing woodland sounds is the song of the Towhee. It is the pure quality of the tones, rather than any great variety, that makes the Towhee's song so agreeable. From April to September, the notes may be heard in woods where there is some undergrowth.

HERMIT THRUSH.

Hylocichla guttata pallasii.

What a pity it is that this gifted singer keeps most of his matchless song for sojourners in our northern forests. Just before leaving, after a protracted stay in spring, the Hermit Thrush will give us just enough of his song to make us wish we could hear more.

ROBIN.

Planesticus migratorius.

The Robin is perhaps our most familiar song bird. Its habit of nesting in town as well as country brings the bird under the observation of everybody. The song lasts throughout the nesting season—from the latter part of March until the first of August.

SONG SPARROW.

Melospiza cinerea melodia.

This is our commonest song bird. From early spring until late in summer, its loud, clear notes may be heard. There is considerable variety in the song, a fact that often makes persons not well acquainted with birds take the same Song Sparrow for a different species.

VESPER SPARROW.

Proecetes gramineus.

This sparrow is heard usually in fields where there are fences. Perched on a wire, the bird will sing its charming song and the breezes will bear it away to a distant wayfarer. Few bird notes are comparable with those of the Vesper Sparrow, whose habit of singing after sundown has won for it the pretty name it bears.

OUR NON-MUSICAL BIRDS.

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH.

Sitta carolinensis.

This species has the most elementary kind of note—the repeated utterance. The bird is, however, a good example of how a simple sound may be made pleasing by putting some expression into it. Sometimes the Nuthatch will increase the volume of its note so much as to remind the observer of the Flicker's efforts.

CHIPPING SPARROW.

Spizella socialis.

This well-known species is our only sparrow without musical powers. However, its one note, which is uttered rapidly, is not unpleasant. By means of a more rounded utterance, the bird has a way of giving a little variety to its simple attempt at voice expression.

CHIMNEY SWIFT.

Chaetura pelagica.

This curious species, whose days are spent speeding through space, utters a note that has the quality of speed as its most marked characteristic. In the evening, swifts often fly about buildings in great numbers, always heard as well as seen.

KINGFISHER.

Ceryle alcyon.

This large species of lakes and rivers has a note that has been very aptly compared with the noise made by a fisherman's reel when casting. If the noise of the reel were multiplied many times over, this description of the Kingfisher's note would be more correct.

WHIP-POOR-WILL.

Antrostomus vociferus.

Just after sundown the note of the Whip-poor-will is heard and continues for about an hour. Later the note is uttered intermittantly throughout the night. When repeated slowly, the note is very distinct and agreeable; but like other species, the bird sometimes mars its effort by a too rapid repetition.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER.

Actilis macularia.

This common species of our lakes and rivers has a very high note, which can be imitated by the syllables *peet-weet.* Often only the note represented by *peet* is heard. The sandpiper usually utters its note when on the wing and when startled.

NIGHTHAWK.

Chordeiles virginianus.

When the beautiful evenings of June come round, a large bird of irregular flight may be seen flitting high overhead, and now and then uttering a strange note. When once seen or heard, you will know that this species is the Nighthawk.

LOON.

Urinator imber.

This large species, which is found on most of our inland lakes, is an ornament sufficiently important to secure better protection for it from the vandalism of the ubiquitous hunter. Its loud, plaintive note is a characteristic sound in lake regions.

PHOEBE BIRD.

Sayornis phoebe.

The note of this species has suggested its name, but the similarity between name and note is not so clear as in the case of the Wood Pewee. The Phoebe's call-note is somewhat like the chirp of the English Sparrow.

KINGBIRD.

Tyrannus carolinensis.

The usual note of this well-known species is one of the least pleasing of bird-utterances. Unlike most birds, the Kingbird has no agreeable note at all. A feature that adds to this unpleasantness of the bird's notes is its habit of uttering them during its frequent quarrels.

CRESTED FLYCATCHER.

Myiarchus crinitus.

There is a suggestion of weirdness in the loud and not unpleasant note of this species. The bird's habit of keeping to unfrequented woods as well as the quality of the note give the observer this strange inpression. In spring, when the flycatcher does not confine itself in woods, its oft-repeated note may be heard in any grove or orchard.

SCREECH OWL.

Megascops asio.

The very plaintive note of this our commonest owl may be heard in town or country—wherever there are trees. By some the bird's note is thought to be the saddest sound in nature. To

FLICKER.

Colaptes auratus.

The usual note of this species is a series of loud, rapid calls, all in the same pitch. Besides the ordinary note, the bird has many other curious utterances, some resembling the cries of babies or puppies. After the nesting season, when families of Flickers are found in our groves, these curious cries are common.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER.

Melanerpes erythrocephalus.

The loud, harsh call of this species is a common sound in all our woods. When several of the birds are together, and especially after the young are fledged, they make a noise that is well-nigh deafening. The note of the young while in the nest is similar to that of the Cedarbird.

CROW.

Corvus americanus.

The loud caw of the Crow is one of the most expressive of any of our bird-notes. During winter, when the crows come nearer dwellings or assemble in great flocks, the observer may obtain a better idea of the number of variations the Crow can give to its caw.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO.

Coccyzus americanus.

The gutteral note of this species is one of the strangest sounds in nature. The bird is seldom seen by any but an experienced observer, keeping usually in the tree tops. Its note is rarely heard, for the bird is more given to silence than to song.

DICKCISSEL.

Spiza americana.

In the meadows, where the Bobolink sings his delicious song in the Maytime, you will be sure to hear another monotonous note. This will come from the Dickcissel. Persistently throughout the long day its unmusical effort continues.

PURPLE GRACKLE.

Quiscalus purpurea.

This species has a note that grates on the nerves of visitors to the country. But like all familiar sounds in nature, the note of this very common bird is not unpleasant to the lover of outdoor life. The grackle's note is one of the first heard in spring and among the last in autumn.

CEDARBIRD.

Bombycilla cedrorum.

This handsome species has the weakest voice of any bird of its size. The inpression made upon the observer is that of the most elementary sound—a feeble effort to show that the bird has a voice. Cedarbirds move about in flocks and may be heard when in trees over head.

DOWNY WOODPECKER.

Dryobates pubescens.

This species gives an observer the impression that it is too busy to waste its precious time in uttering any note. Usually the only time the bird will give one a chance to hear its rasping note is when flying from tree to tree.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER.

Sphyrapicus varius.

Among the early spring notes, the loud, harsh clatter of the Sapsucker will be sure to attract the attention of any observer This species is very bold, and sometimes in spring, very numerous, invading parks to prey upon the trees. Like certain woodpeckers, the Sapsucker often utters its note when flying from tree to tree.

BARN SWALLOW.

Hirundo erythrogastra.

Ths twitter of the Barn Swallow is pleasing but hardly musical. As the swallows skim over the surface of lakes or the tops of trees, their note is an agreeable feature of life in the country during summer.

MYRTLE WARBLER.

Dendroica coronata.

The first of the warblers to arrive in the north in spring, the Myrtle Warbler has a loud characteristic call-note, which is uttered while flying. Its other notes are heard occasionally, but while varied they are not very musical.

SNOWBIRD.

Junco hyemalis.

Just before departing to a more northern clime for the summer, the Snowbird gives us an opportunity to hear its notes. There is some variety in them, but the musical quality is like that of the Chipping Sparrow's attempt at singing.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE.

Lanius ludovicianus.

A favorite perching place for this species is a telephone wire by a country road. Here you may hear a variety of notes—some agreeable and others harsh—uttered by the Shrike. Usually, however, the bird is silent.